

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 1999-2000

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Annual Report

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0800

(615) 741-2633
Fax: (615) 741-5956
(800) 264-0904
E-mail: tccy@mail.state.tn.us



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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



February 7, 2001

Dear Reader:

As we enter the 21st Century I agree with our new president, George W. Bush, who says, “Let’s make sure that no child is left behind.”

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has an obligation to our children of Tennessee to provide opportunities for every child to develop to his or her fullest potential.

The *Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Report* states that the future safety, health, and security of our society will be greatly influenced by how we treat the nation’s most troubled and difficult children today. Every Tennessean has an obligation to ensure that children have an opportunity to travel a path where they are nurtured by all those who touch their lives.

Governor Don Sundquist has continued throughout his administrations to place children at the forefront of his programs. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has joined with the governor to emphasize the needs of the children of Tennessee.

New initiatives of the Commission for the past year are:

1. **Youth Excellence Award** - To be presented at Children’s Advocacy Day 2001 to a young adult who has made great strides in his or her life from past involvement with the juvenile justice system.
2. **Making Kids Count Media Award** - Presented at Children’s Advocacy Day to a media person who has made a significant contribution in highlighting issues of children.
3. **Children’s Rights Conference** - More than 400 attended the training session on children’s rights in the courts, schools, TennCare, and state custody.
4. **“Future Directions” Planning Committee** - Commission members have been charged with the responsibility of reviewing the present and future direction of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth.
5. **A Grant Review Process** - More responsive to the concerns of communities across the state.
6. **An Administrative Committee Structure** - The Commission adopted the committee process so that issues that come before the Commission can be addressed more effectively.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth receives and administers funds provided through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974. When states do not comply with the core requirements of the act, the state is penalized. A major issue facing the Commission this year was non-compliance with a core requirement, deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO). The Commission and staff worked together to reduce the number of violations and achieve compliance with the DSO core requirement.

On a personal note, I commend the dedicated staff who are committed to improving the lives of children in Tennessee. The Commission members and staff will continue to strive to see that no child will be left behind.

Sincerely,

Betty Cannon

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER



February 7, 2001

Dear Reader:

The beginning of the new millennium brought many opportunities and challenges for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. The Commission has welcomed Rebecca Goodman Dove, Kandenna Greene, and James B. Ford as new members since the last annual report.

Despite some changes, the dedicated staff continued its efforts on behalf of children in Tennessee, drawing on the strength and experience of long-time employees, while being invigorated by new blood.

TCCY continues its work to meet its core goal of advocating for children in Tennessee. The Commission took a stand on 25 bills before the General Assembly and had a positive impact on the legislative process. More than 250 advocates from across the state participated in the 12th annual Children's Advocacy Day. In addition, 500 advocates used the information provided by legislative updates and reports to monitor and impact legislation. Efficiency and effectiveness were enhanced by the electronic distribution of these materials, which was cheaper and more timely.

TCCY was very successful in educating the public about the state of children in Tennessee through its publications, including KIDS COUNT reports, brochures, and other written materials; 51 presentations; and 18 displays.

More than 160 articles appeared in the state's newspapers during 1999-2000 based on materials supplied by TCCY or quoting TCCY staff or materials. In addition, TCCY staff members were contacted by 41 members of the broadcast or other media.

TCCY staff members coordinated their efforts with other advocates, serving on five national or Southeast regional groups, 30 statewide groups, and 54 area groups. The legislatively mandated TCCY regional councils concentrated the efforts of more than 2,800 people on working for children.

The Juvenile Justice division of the Commission awarded more than \$1.3 million in federal formula grants and \$330,000 in federal Title V funds in 1999-2000. State funds awarded included \$210,000 for Court Appointed Special Advocate programs that served 2,600 children and \$950,000 for state supplements for improving juvenile court services. In fiscal year 1999-2000 Commission staff conducted 1,057 monitoring visits at 407 sites to measure compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

TCCY worked to address the number of status offender violations in the state, which had brought Tennessee out of compliance with one provision of the act. Collaborative efforts with courts, detention facilities, and the Department of Children's Services were brought to bear on the problem. TCCY anticipates that Tennessee will be back in compliance by the end of December 2000.

Nearly 300 children in state custody were served by TCCY's Ombudsman Program, which also increased communication among the agencies that serve these children. The project sponsored two statewide and one regional Children's Rights Conferences. Tennessee's share of juvenile justice funds was also used to increase juvenile access to legal counsel through a grant to West Tennessee Legal Services.

The Children's Program Outcome Review Team program continued to review the status of children in state custody. While the status and safety of these children was overwhelmingly positive, the review found that the system continued to struggle to meet the needs of children who arrive in state custody after experiencing many problems, including substance-abuse issues, lack of relationship with their father, poverty, domestic violence and physical and sexual abuse. The status of the children in custody showed improvement in six of seven categories reported.

Through the councils, the agencies participating in the CPORT process, the facilities monitored and programs funded, the hundreds of people involved in groups with TCCY staff participation, and the thousands of people educated by TCCY's publications and affected by the laws TCCY has helped to pass, TCCY made a difference in the lives of Tennessee's children in 1999-2000.

Sincerely

Linda O'Neal
Executive Director

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The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) is an independent agency created by the Tennessee General Assembly. The primary mission of the Commission is advocacy for improvements in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families. Tennessee has had a Commission on Children and Youth or Children's Services Commission continuously since the 1950s; the current statutory framework for the Commission on Children and Youth was enacted in 1988, with minor revisions in 1999, when it was reauthorized.

Appointed by the Governor for overlapping three-year terms, the 21 Commission members serve as the policy board for the agency. At least one Commission member represents each development district, and the commissioners of state departments serving children, or their designees, are ex-officio members. The Commission also has youth advisory members as necessary to meet the requirements for serving as the State Advisory Group under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Committees

The Commission had five standing committees to oversee the operations of the agency during fiscal year 1998-99. The Commission officers and committee chairs served as the Executive Committee. The chair is appointed by the governor to a three-year term. Other officers, the vice-chair and the secretary, are elected by the Commission. Committee chairs and members are appointed by the Commission chair.

The Budget and Data Committee was responsible for fiscal matters such as Commission budget requests, budget analysis, and budget recommendations and for agency efforts to collect and disseminate information, including *The Advocate*, *Kids Count*, and other publications.

The Councils and Interdepartmental Responsibilities Committee reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth and interdepartmental activities, including teen-pregnancy and school-dropout prevention.

The Children's Services Committee provided oversight for Commission activities in the evaluation by the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) and for the Impact Study evaluation of mental health service delivery for children who are not in state custody. It also reviewed implementation of the TCCY Ombudsman Program coordination with child welfare services, juvenile justice services, and mental health services to children in custody.

The Juvenile Justice Committee supervised the implementation of the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee, the administration of state funds for juvenile justice, and other juvenile justice activities.

The Minority Issues Committee ensured adequate consideration of the needs of minority children in all TCCY efforts, with particular attention given to disproportionate minority confinement (DMC) in the juvenile justice system, including recommendations from a statewide task force on how to reduce DMC. The committee was also responsible for the development of the agency plan to address issues related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



ADMINISTRATION

Commission Meetings

During fiscal year 1999-2000, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth met five times to carry out its responsibilities. In addition to the Children's Advocacy Day and Children's Rights Conference events in March, primary topics for meetings included presentations on cultural sensitivity and disproportionate minority confinement, the evaluation of juvenile justice grantees, and a review of legislation.

Commission Membership*

Betty Cannon, Chairman
Nashville

Angi Agle
Oak Ridge

Betty Anderson
Covington

Kimalishea Anderson
Knoxville

Shirlene Booker
Gray

P. Larry Boyd
Rogersville

Rebecca Goodman Dove
Springfield

Kandenna J. Greene
Goodlettsville

James B. Ford
Franklin

Wendy Ford
Memphis

Johnny Horne
Chattanooga

Drew Johnson
Nashville

Jim Kidd
Fayetteville

Kate Rose Krull
Covington

Mary Lee
Dickson

Alisa Malone
Franklin

Jerry W. Maness
Memphis

Sharon T. Massey
Clarksville

Linda Miller
Memphis

Suzan Mitchell
Johnson City

John Rambo
Johnson City

Semeka Randall
Knoxville

Mary Kate Ridgeway
Paris

James Stewart
Jackson

***At press time.** Beth Alexander, Nashville; Connie Givens, Rogersville; Brenda Vickers, Cookeville; Jim Ward, Alamo; and Paige Wilson Williams, Knoxville, served as members of the Commission during fiscal year 1999-2000.

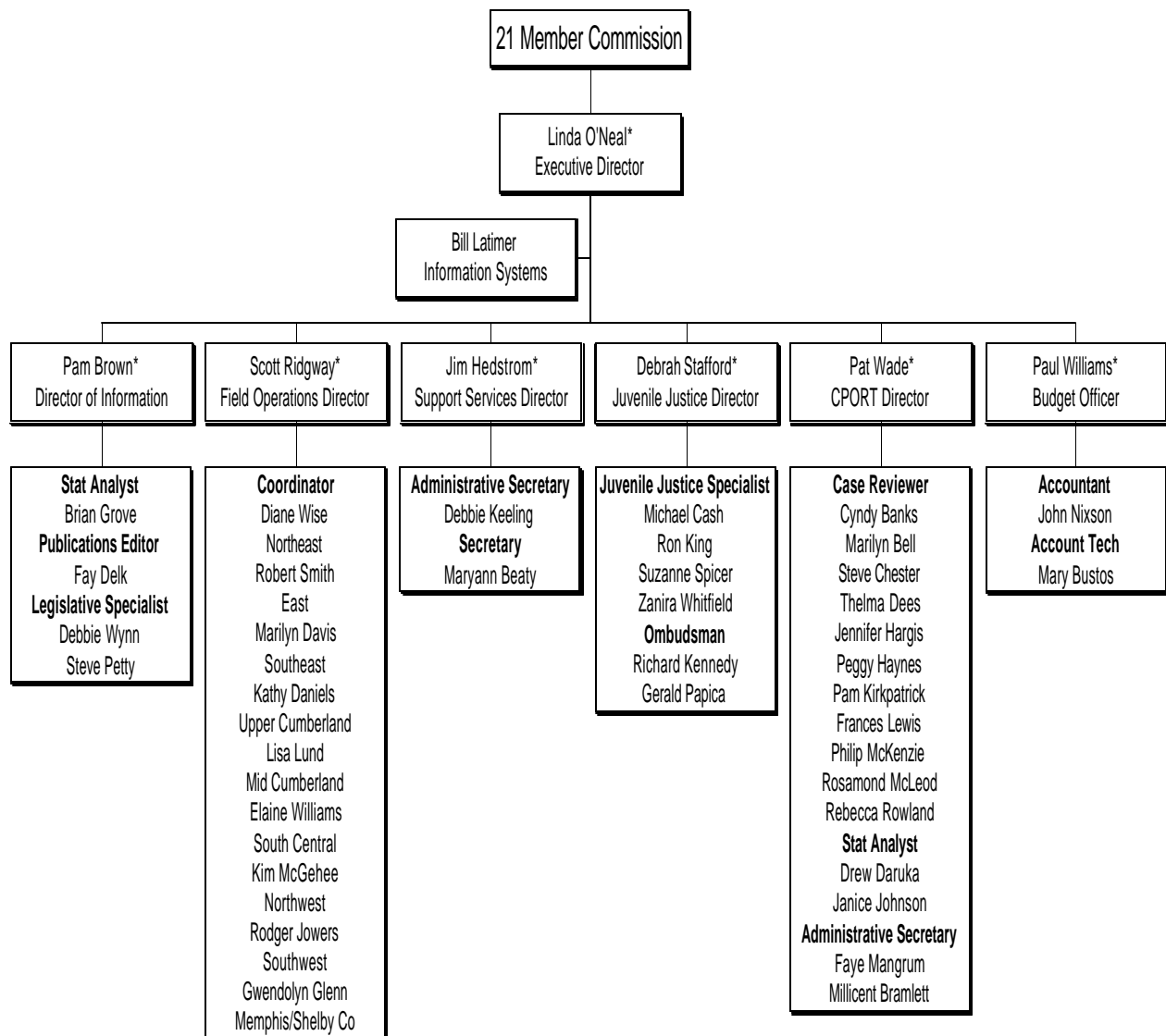
ADMINISTRATION



Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 49 full-time positions and five part-time secretarial positions. Nine full-time workers and the part-time staff members provide support to the regional councils on children and youth and carry out other regional and local Commission responsibilities. One full-time staff member, located in Dunlap, monitors facilities for compliance with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and monitors juvenile justice grants and contracts. The other personnel are located in the Nashville central office. The organizational chart for the Commission indicates staff members at press time. ■

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth





BUDGET

TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & YOUTH
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
BY OBJECT CODE / FUNDING SOURCES
FISCAL YEAR 1999--2000

	STATE	FEDERAL	INTER DEPT.	KIDS COUNT	AOD STUDY	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits						
Salaries / Longevity	581,930	190,834	525,521	88,456	11,441	1,398,182
Benefits	131,888	46,110	137,278	24,258	1,744	341,278
Total Personal Services and Benefits	\$713,818	\$236,945	\$662,799	\$112,713	\$13,185	\$1,739,460
Other Expenditures						
Travel	48,291	78,713	106,585	3,082	5,826	242,497
Printing, Duplicating, Binding	17,921	52,022	16,173	5,251	80	91,447
Communications & Shipping	25,222	5,926	4,906	7,059	560	43,674
Costs						
Maintenance, Repairs & Services	528	1,329	1,285	239		3,380
Professional Services & Dues	17,846	5,755	101,043	1,052	14,875	140,571
Professional Svcs./State Agency	54,413	16,398	48,461	4,523	1,356	125,151
Supplies & Materials	36,161	18,859	12,662	3,680	64	71,425
Equipment						
Rentals & Insurance	92,989	19,301	69,633	9,769	904	192,597
Motor Vehicle Operation						
Awards & Indemnities	1,418	370				1,788
Grants & Subsidies	70,809	2,373,913	108,986	687		2,554,395
Equipment						
Total Other Expenditures	\$365,598	\$2,572,587	\$469,734	\$35,341	\$23,664	\$3,466,919
Total Expenditures by Fund Source	1,079,416	2,809,532	1,132,533	148,054	36,849	5,206,378
Funding Sources						
State--Appropriations	1,079,416	97,004		81,588	8,825	1,266,833
Federal--O J J D P		1,674,380				1,674,380
Interdepartmental--DCS		1,020,052	1,132,533			2,152,585
Other--Miscellaneous		18,095				18,095
Other--Kids Count				66,467		66,467
--Casey Foundation						
Other--SED Impact Study					28,024	28,024
--Vanderbilt University						
Total Funding	1,079,415	2,809,532	1,132,533	148,055	36,849	5,206,384
Positions						
Full-Time	18	9	21	2	4	54
Part-Time	5					5
Seasonal						
Total Positions	23	9	21	2	4	59

BUDGET



Program	Total Expenditures Of Programs	State Programs	Federal Programs	Interdepart- mental Programs	Other Programs
Advocacy:	\$435,253	\$435,253			
To provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families in Tennessee.					
Juvenile Justice:	2,893,947	181,420	1,674,380	1,020,052	18,095
To implement the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee and efficiently and effectively administer state and federal Juvenile Justice funds.					
Children's Services Evaluation:	1,132,534			1,132,534	
To conduct the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) process, an independent evaluation of the delivery of services to children in state custody and their families.					
Regional Councils:	480,178	462,003	18,175		
To develop and support Regional Councils on Children and Youth and to carry out appropriate regional activities related to the Department of Children's Services.					
Information Dissemination:	148,055	81,588			66,467
To effectively implement the Tennessee KIDS COUNT project for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on indicators of the well being of children in Tennessee and to disseminate other appropriate information.					
Coordination of Services:	23,209	23,209			
To engage in efforts to improve coordination in the delivery of services to children and families in Tennessee.					
Teen Pregnancy Prevention:	56,352	56,352			
To efficiently and effectively administer state teen pregnancy prevention and teen parenting funds.					
Alcohol and Other Drugs Study:	36,850	8,826			28,024
To conduct intensive case reviews to assess the impact of managed care on the delivery of TennCare/Medicaid services to Children, with a special focus on children with alcohol and drug dependencies.					
Total Expenditures by Source	\$5,206,378	\$1,248,651	\$1,692,555	\$2,152,586	\$112,586



ADVOCACY

The primary mission of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth is to provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families. Major strategies for effective advocacy include extensive networking and efforts to assist in the coordination of services.

A number of Commission activities combine advocacy and coordination of services. Many of these activities also comply with specific statutory mandates of the advocacy and coordination responsibilities. These responsibilities are to:

- Make recommendations concerning establishment of priorities and needed improvements with respect to programs and services for children and youth;
- Advocate and coordinate the efficient and effective development and enhancement of state, local, and regional programs and services for children and youth.

Children's Advocacy Day – 2000

More than 250 advocates attended the 12th annual Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Children's Advocacy Day (CAD) held on March 22, 2000, in the War Memorial Auditorium. Each CAD participant received an information packet. The event followed the second Children's Rights Conference training, held during the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

Advocates came together at Children's Advocacy Day to:

- Meet with legislators to discuss relevant children and youth issues;
- Observe legislative sessions;
- Receive legislative updates;
- Network with advocates from other parts of the state;
- Hear updates on issues affecting children;
- Present the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award; and,
- Present the Making Kids Count Media Award.

Commission Chairman Betty Cannon welcomed participants. Tennessee State House members Jere Hargrove, Mark Maddox, Steve McDaniel and Page Walley and Senate members Roy Herron and Gene Elsea updated the group on the legislative process and upcoming legislation. State Comptroller John Morgan and Fredia Wadley, commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health, presented information on the state budget.

The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award was presented to Trudy Hughes, who was nominated by the Southeast Council on Children and Youth, and Sandi Fisher, nominated by the Northeast Council on Children and Youth. At this year's event a new award was inaugurated, the Making Kids Count Media Award. Carrie Ferguson, a reporter with *The (Nashville) Tennessean*, received the award.

Committees, Task Forces, and Boards

A major strategy for advocacy and coordination is the participation of Commission staff on national, state, regional, and local committees, task forces, and boards. This involvement provides an opportunity for critical information sharing, networking, advocacy, and coordination.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

TCCY staff members served on five national or Southeast regional committees, task forces, and boards. These groups focused on issues of juvenile justice, early childhood education, health and human services, and family-centered medical services. National and Southeast regional committees, task forces, and boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Steering Committee, Assessment Committee, Baltimore;
- Coalition for Juvenile Justice Government Relations Committee, Specialist Planning Group Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Conference Planning Committee, New Orleans LA.;
- Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- United States Ombudsman Association, Children and Youth Services Ombudsman Committee, San Francisco, Calif.

State Organizations

Staff members participated on a total of 30 statewide committees, task forces, and boards that addressed a broad range of issues, including health, teen pregnancy, child welfare, mental health, child care, family assistance, juvenile justice, and broad-based children's needs. The statewide committees, task forces, or boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- Department of Children's Services Permanency Planning Committee;
- Department of Health Child Fatality Review Team;
- Department of Human Services and Advocates Advisory Committee;
- Department of Human Services Child Care Advisory Committee;
- Developmental Disability Council Advisory Board, Legislative Committee;
- Families First Working Group;
- Gore Family Reunion, Tennessee Steering Committee;
- Gore Family Reunion, Volunteer Committee, Nashville;
- Information Systems Managers Group Steering Committee;
- Interdepartmental School Dropout Task Force;
- Interdepartmental Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parenting Programs Committee;*
- March of Dimes Advisory Grants Review, Legislative Committee;
- Mental Health Planning Council;
- Micro Technical Support Partnership Forum;
- Tennessee Action Coalition on Tobacco, Legislative Committee;
- TennCare Advocates Coordinating Committee;
- TennCare for Children Advisory Committee
- TennCare Partners Roundtable;
- Tennessee Association on the Education of Young Children, Public Policy Committee;
- Tennessee Association for Child Care, Board of Directors;



ADVOCACY

- Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, Board of Directors, Treasurer, and Finance Committee;
- Tennessee Supreme Court Permanency Planning Commission;
- Tennessee Voices for Children, Board of Directors, Conference Planning Committee, Grant Advisory Committee, and Fundraising Committee*;
- Title 33 Commission on Children and Youth Sub-Committee, Children's Study Committee; and,
- Vanderbilt University Relative Caregiver Policy Committee.

*TCCY staff served as chair.

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 54 regional committees, task forces, or boards. At the regional level, representatives of the Commission participated with a number of groups in almost every area of the state. Additionally, staff members also participated on many committees, task forces, and boards unique to individual regions. These regional groups addressed a range of issues, including child abuse, child care, education, Head Start, health, mental health, family assistance, foster care, adoptions, juvenile justice, substance abuse, and teen pregnancy. The committees, task forces, or boards in each region with relatively consistent staff representation are:

- Department of Children's Services Regional Resource Management Group;
- Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Regional Mental Health Planning Council; and,
- Governor's Community Prevention Initiative.

Presentations and Displays

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth staff members made presentations and prepared displays on a variety of topics to a range of different groups and organizations. These presentations focused on Commission activities, advocacy, Commission priorities, and substantive issues. During fiscal year 1999-2000, TCCY staff members made 51 presentations, two national, 20 statewide, 24 regional, and five local, to more than 2,875 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented 18 displays at conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings, government days, and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy

During the 2000 session of the 101st General Assembly, the Commission prepared and distributed a *Legislative Report* briefly summarizing bills and resolutions affecting children and families. Sixteen weekly *Legislative Updates* that identified and tracked 70 bills were prepared and distributed. After adjournment, a *Legislative Summary* was prepared summarizing 58 bills and resolutions dealing with children and families that passed into law. Each of these documents was electronically distributed to 500 child advocates and council members across the state.



The *Legislative Updates* were posted on the Commission website each week, as was the *Legislative Summary* following adjournment and assignment of Public Chapter numbers. The legislative pages were the most visited pages on the TCCY website.

The Commission reviewed the most significant legislation affecting children and families and took specific positions on 25 bills. Of these 25 the Commission supported 20 bills, nine of which became law. The Commission opposed five bills, none of which became law. ■

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103(a)(1)(D) establishes the following Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) responsibilities in the juvenile justice arena: “To implement the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended; and to distribute, consistent with the purpose of the Commission as set forth by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-102(a), such funds as the general assembly shall direct.”

Each state participating in the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 is required to have a state advisory group. In Tennessee, TCCY serves as the state advisory group responsible for the administration of funds received through the Act. It is important for TCCY to exercise the powers and duties designated in the Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-103, which includes advocating for efficient, effective, and relevant programs and services for children and youth. TCCY also identifies problems and gaps in programs and services for children and families.

In addition to the requirement to have a state advisory group, a state must maintain compliance with the Act’s four core requirements for continued participation. The core requirements are to:

1. Deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO);
2. Remove children from adult jails;
3. Separate children from adult offenders; and,
4. Address minority overrepresentation in secure confinement.

Another requirement for participation in the Act is the annual submission of a three-year plan or plan update to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). In fiscal year 1999-2000 the Commission submitted a plan update that included a crime analysis of juvenile court referrals and adjudications categorized by race, gender, and specific offense. Minority overrepresentation in rural and metropolitan areas of Tennessee was also identified. The three-year plan includes program areas to receive priority for JJDP Act funds.

Facilities/Program Monitoring

To assure compliance with the core requirements, TCCY conducts periodic on-site monitoring of all adult jails and lock-ups and all secure juvenile facilities in Tennessee, including juvenile detention centers, temporary holding resources, and training schools. Commission staff members review records to determine the number of children detained and the circumstances of their detention.

In fiscal year 1999-2000 Commission staff conducted 1,057 monitoring visits at 407 sites as presented on the next page. In July 2000 the Department of Finance and Administration assumed responsibility for monitoring certain programs that receive grant funds. Therefore, the number of TCCY staff monitoring visits will decrease.

JUVENILE JUSTICE



TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 1999-2000			
Number	Type of Program	Monitoring Activity Frequency	Total Number of Monitoring Activities
14	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs	Semi- Annually	28
93	State Supplement Grants	Semi- Annually	186
87	Federal Formula Grants	Quarterly	348
56	Reimbursement Accounts	Annually	112
122	Jails and/or Lockups	Annually	122
6	Temporary Holding Facilities	Quarterly	24
5	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	60
13	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	156
2	Juvenile Detention Centers	Six Times	12
5	Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	Annually	5
4	Mental Health and Other Facilities	Annually	4
407			1,057

*TCCY fiscal year includes part of two federal grant years, and grants differed in number each year (45 for FY99 and 42 for FY00).

Compliance Monitoring Report

A monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates was also submitted to OJDP. The 1999 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of 783 deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed was 399. Unfortunately, Tennessee was found to be out of compliance with the JJDP Act. The violations were a result of children being held in secure confinement longer than the time limits specified in the Act. The reasons for violations include, but are not limited to, the failure of parents to pick up their children, the problems in record keeping at secure facilities, and the failure of the Department of Children Services to find placements for children in a timely manner. However, the total violations for 1999 were significantly fewer than the more than 1,800 DSO violations in 1977.

As a result of the intense efforts of the TCCY staff and Commission members, along with the collaborative efforts of juvenile courts, detention facilities, temporary holding resources, and the Department of Children Services, the number of DSO violations have drastically decreased. TCCY anticipates that Tennessee will be back in compliance with the DSO core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act by the end of calendar year 2000.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act has had a positive impact on Tennessee's juvenile justice system regarding children held in jails. The number of children in adult jails has been reduced from approximately 10,000 in 1980 to only five jail removal violations in the 1999 monitoring period. In the rare instances where juveniles were placed in adult facilities, they were

inadequately separated from adult offenders only nine times. This was down from almost 3,800 violations in 1977.

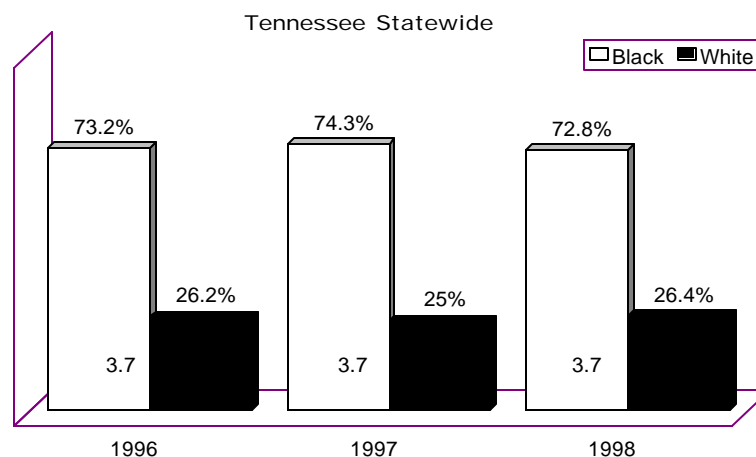
Minority Overrepresentation

Compliance with the minority overrepresentation core requirement was maintained by: 1) collecting data verifying a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement (DMC) in rural and metropolitan areas of the state; 2) educating communities regarding DMC; and 3) developing an action plan to address the problem. TCCY staff also provided an analysis of how DMC occurred at different decision points in the juvenile justice system. The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 met three times during fiscal year 1999-2000 to develop strategies to reduce minority overrepresentation in problem areas. Local DMC Task Forces continued to focus on the problem in their communities.

For Tennessee, as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 are African-American. Overall, referrals of African-American youth to secure detention were at a significantly higher rate than referrals for white youth. In Tennessee, 72.8 percent of juveniles between the ages of 12 through 17 who were placed in secure detention facilities for calendar year 1998 were African-American.

Statewide transfers to adult court in 1998 had an index of 3.1 (overrepresentation) involving African-Americans and 0.5 (under representation) involving white youth. This is compared to a 1.0 index representing proportionate numbers, which means that African-American youth are 3.1 times more likely to be transferred to adult court than would be expected based on their representation in the at-risk population.

Juveniles Confined in Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities



Source: Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges CY96- CY98 Data

Programs established with JJDP Act funds have resulted in significant increases in the availability of services for youth. Advocacy projects funded by the JJDP Act have prompted important system changes for the benefit of Tennessee children and youth.



Federal Formula Grants

Tennessee received approximately \$1.3 million in federal formula grant funds in 1999-2000. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention to ensure that youth who commit offenses receive appropriate placements and services. There were 45 federal formula grant programs in operation during the last quarter of federal fiscal year 1999. A total of 42 applicants were funded and began programs in October 1999 (fiscal year 2000). More than 26,800 children were directly served by programs funded in fiscal year 1999-2000.

Projects are awarded funds on a year-to-year basis, generally for a maximum of three years. Usually a declining-share system is used, with 100 percent of an approved budget funded in the first year, 75 percent of the first year's budget amount funded in the second year, and 50 percent of the first year's budget amount funded in the third year.

TCCY staff provides grant-writing training and technical assistance to potential applicants for federal formula grants. In fiscal year 1999-2000 approximately 40 agencies participated in the orientation training for new grantees. The training sites included Chattanooga, Memphis, and Nashville. TCCY staff also provided technical assistance to agencies and organizations to assure successful implementation of programs.

Title V Grants

The 1992 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. TCCY held three separate comprehensive training sessions for units of local government community teams. The training was based on the *Communities That Care* model developed for Title V programs funded by OJJDP.

Unlike formula grants, which may be awarded to individuals or single agencies, Title V funds must be given to local units of government. To be considered for funding, a community must demonstrate collaboration by the establishment of a multidisciplinary prevention policy board and the development of a three-year plan for delinquency prevention. A risk and resource assessment of the target area must also be completed to ensure community needs are addressed. To be eligible, a community must also be in compliance with the mandates of the JJDP Act.

Title V Grantee	FY 1999-2000 Award Amount
Carroll County	\$27,875
Davidson County	\$35,000
Hamilton County	\$74,000
Hancock County	\$75,000
Madison County	\$54,000
Memphis/Shelby County	\$35,000
Roane County	\$32,114

In fiscal year 1999-2000 TCCY continued its participation with the Tennessee departments of Health, Children's Services, and Education and the United Way in the Governor's Community Prevention Initiative for Children. Title V programs and those funded by the Department of

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Health through the Governor's Prevention Initiative share similar philosophies and goals. To receive these funds, community collaboration must be demonstrated in the development of strategies to prevent negative behaviors and outcomes for children.

Challenge Activities

The 1992 reauthorization of the JJDP Act also added 10 Challenge Activities, classified as categories A-J, to the programs funded by OJJDP. The purpose of the Challenge Activities is to provide states with incentives to develop, adopt, and improve policies in one of 10 specific areas. The Challenge Activities program was funded for the first time in fiscal year 1995. Tennessee received \$154,000 in fiscal year 1999 for Challenge Activities.

For each of the first two years of Challenge Activities funding, TCCY chose to participate in two activities. Challenge Activity A involves developing and adopting policies and programs to provide basic health, mental health, and appropriate education services, including special education. The services are for youth in the juvenile justice system, as specified in standards developed by the National Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Funds set aside for Activity A were earmarked for the development of policies and procedures for the new Department of Children's Services. Funds set aside for Activity F were used to start an Ombudsman office. The program was created to resolve questions or concerns regarding services to children and youth in state custody. The process helps to ensure that the best interest of the child is the focal point for mediation and facilitation.

During fiscal year 1996-97 TCCY voted to continue funding for Challenge Activity F, the Ombudsman Program, but also voted to fund Challenge Activity B. It involves developing and adapting policies and programs to provide access to counsel for all juveniles in the justice system to ensure that juveniles have access to legal personnel before waiving their right to counsel. Challenge Activity B was implemented during fiscal year 1997-98 through the programs provided by West Tennessee Legal Services and Rural Legal Services of Tennessee. Training was provided for attorneys and juvenile court staff that work with juveniles, which included the special needs population. Also, pamphlets and handouts were developed to inform parents and juveniles of their rights and responsibilities. In fiscal year 1999-2000, TCCY again funded West Tennessee Legal Services, which continues to provide outstanding services for children and youth in Madison, Gibson, and Haywood counties.

TCCY held the first Children's Rights Conference in Tennessee September 8, 1999 with an overflow crowd. In the spring of 2000, another Children's Rights Conference was held in conjunction with Children's Advocacy Days sponsored by TCCY. Both conferences included information on Due Process, the Rights of Children in State Custody, EPSDT: the Rights of Children to Health Care, and Special Education: the Rights of Children to Free Appropriate Public Education. Presenters included a judge, attorneys, law school professors, and a special education compliance consultant. People in attendance were a broad spectrum of social service stakeholders, case managers, child advocates, attorneys, court representatives, therapists, and service providers. This information was also presented at a Southeastern regional conference in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Chattanooga.



Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account

The Commission administers a combination of state and federal JJDP Act funds to provide financial assistance to counties for removing children from adult jails. These funds can be used to provide services to children who meet the criteria of TCA 37-1-114(c), which describes appropriate placement of children in secure facilities. Allowable services include, but are not limited to, the following programs: attendant care, emergency transportation, emergency shelter care and foster care, temporary holding, and secure detention. In fiscal year 1999-2000 TCCY contracted with 56 counties for use of reimbursement account funds. Through the reimbursement account, approximately 2,300 children received services in fiscal year 1999-2000.

Each county accepting reimbursement account funds must develop and submit local rules and procedures for each service provided. Account funds can only be used to provide services to children who are taken into custody in a county that did not operate a secure detention facility in 1983. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the reimbursement account. Counties that participated in the reimbursement account with contract amounts are listed on pages 16 and 17.

State Juvenile Justice Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services. In fiscal year 1999-2000, each county received \$10,000. In counties with more than one juvenile court, each court is entitled to an equitable share of the county's allocation. To receive the funds, the juvenile court must have at least one part-time youth services officer (YSO) who is appointed and supervised by the juvenile court judge. The youth services officer must meet identified educational requirements and receive training annually.

State supplement funds cannot be used to pay salaries or expenses of juvenile court judges or for construction or remodeling of adult facilities. In fiscal year 1999-2000, 93 counties used approximately 80 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or enhance the services of the court. The next largest use of the funds was for training of court staff. Use of these funds is limited only by the imagination of the courts, as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

The Commission administers state funds for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs in Tennessee. The purpose of the CASA programs is to recruit, train, and supervise court-approved volunteers. These volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected, or dependent children and other children who are placed out of home by the court. CASA volunteers provide assistance to the court by collecting background information, preparing reports for court, and participating in case reviews. The CASA volunteer works with the court and other agencies to ensure that a permanent placement is found as quickly as possible and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to meet the needs of these children. In fiscal year 1999-2000, state CASA funds provided services for more than 2,600 children in Anderson, Blount, Davidson, Hamblen, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, and Wilson counties. Each county received \$15,000.



JUVENILE JUSTICE

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY Grant Period: 10/1/98 - 9/30/99 By Program Category

GRANTEE		AMOUNT
Compliance Monitoring		
TCCY Monitoring	Nashville*	50,093
Delinquency Prevention		
Academic Achievement Solutions	Clarksville	31,500
Anderson County Health Council	Clinton	15,000
Buddies of Nashville	Nashville	30,400
Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Memphis	Memphis	13,176
Chattanooga Kids on the Block	Chattanooga	5,000
Clinch-Powell RC&D Council	Rutledge	20,600
Community Mediation Ctr. / VORP	Crossville	10,914
Cookeville Police Department (Housing Authority)	Cookeville	23,396
Exchange Club Family Center	Nashville	26,946
Grundy County School System	Altamont	22,500
Humphreys County Juvenile Court	Waverly	6,225
Humphreys County Board of Education	Waverly	37,500
Martin Police Department	Martin	6,562
Maury County Public Schools	Columbia	27,000
Metro Nashville Board of Education	Nashville	31,751
Peace, Inc.	Nashville	21,910
Polk County Department of Education	Benton	40,000
The Potter's House / A Holy Place	Lebanon	40,000
Sevier County Sheriff's Department	Sevierville	26,123
South Central TN Exchange Club	Columbia	15,673
Juvenile Court Services		
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	30,329
Dyer County Juvenile Court	Dyersburg	30,000
Greene County Juvenile Court	Greeneville	27,836
Hawkins County Juvenile Court	Rogersville	17,922
Putnam County Juvenile Court	Cookeville	22,500
Roane County Juvenile Court	Kingston	15,656
Systems Improvement		
TCJFCJ (Training)	Nashville*	57,000
TCJFCJ (Information Systems)	Nashville*	23,016
Minority Overrepresentation		
Boys to Men	Johnson City	39,908
The Carpetbag Theatre, Inc.	Knoxville	40,000
Chattanooga / Hamilton Co. Health Department	Chattanooga	34,500
Children and Family Services, Inc.	Covington	40,000
Crittenton Services, Inc.	Nashville	22,500
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	45,484
Family Life Resource Network	Somerville	26,810
Greene, Peters & Associates	Nashville	27,023
Madison County Juvenile Court	Jackson	22,375
Memphis Partners, Inc.	Memphis	27,098
Metro Nashville Board of Education	Nashville	26,250
Montgomery County Juvenile Court	Clarksville	15,422
Refuge Temple Church--Project Get Smart	Dyersburg	22,500
YMCA of Metropolitan Knoxville	Knoxville	33,750
University of Tennessee	Knoxville	40,000
University of Memphis--Psychology Department	Memphis	18,582

TOTAL GRANTS

1,208,730

*Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope of services is statewide.

JUVENILE JUSTICE



Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY Grant Period: 10/1/99 - 9/30/00 By Program Category

GRANTEE

Compliance Monitoring			
TCCY Monitoring	Nashville*	\$	50,093
Delinquency Prevention			
Grundy County Board of Education		\$	12,500
Humphreys County Board of Education	Waverly	\$	25,000
Maury County Public Schools	Columbia	\$	18,000
Polk County Department of Education	Benton	\$	30,000
Teen Peace of Peace	Nashville	\$	14,607
23rd District Juvenile Advocates, Inc.	Ashland City	\$	8,449
Academic Achievement Solutions	Clarksville	\$	23,625
Buddies of Nashville/Putnam County	Cookeville	\$	22,800
Buddies of Wilson County	Lebanon	\$	37,469
Claiborne County Board of Education	Tazewell	\$	40,000
Brownsville Haywood/ Community Resource Center	Brownsville	\$	33,000
Cookeville Housing Authority	Cookeville	\$	15,597
Exchange Club Family Center	Nashville	\$	20,209
Johnson City Schools	Johnson City Schools	\$	34,797
Kingsport Housing Authority	Kingsport	\$	30,540
Knox County Schools	Knoxville	\$	37,848
Lewis County (Mid-South VORP)	Hohenwald	\$	20,000
The Potter's House	Lebanon	\$	30,000
Juvenile Courts			
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	\$	22,746
Greene County Juvenile Court	Greeneville	\$	18,557
Hardeman County Juvenile Court	Bolivar	\$	29,969
Hawkins County Juvenile Court	Rogersville	\$	11,938
Johnson City Juvenile Court	Johnson City	\$	40,000
Madison County Juvenile Court	Jackson	\$	14,917
Putnam County Juvenile Court	Cookeville	\$	15,000
Minority Overrepresentation			
Boys to Men	Johnson City	\$	26,938
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department	Chattanooga	\$	23,288
Children and Family Services	Covington	\$	30,000
Crittenton Services, Inc.	Nashville	\$	40,000
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	\$	30,702
Memphis Partners/Leaders of Tomorrow	Memphis	\$	18,065
Metro Nashville Board of Ed./McKissack	Nashville	\$	21,433
Metropolitan Board of Education/Pearl Cohn	Nashville	\$	17,485
Refuge Temple Church	Dyersburg	\$	15,000
St. Peters CME Church	Brownsville	\$	31,804
The Carpetbag Theatre	Knoxville	\$	30,000
UT College of Human Ecology	Knoxville	\$	30,000
University of Memphis/Psychology Department	Memphis	\$	12,373
YMCA Metropolitan Knoxville	Knoxville	\$	22,500
Systems Improvements			
TCJFCJ (Information Systems)	Nashville*	\$	23,000
TCJFCJ (Training)	Nashville*	\$	50,000

Total Grants \$ 1,080,249

*Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope of services is statewide.

Transfer Hearings

Tennessee Code Annotated 33-3-401 et seq. establishes procedures for the involuntary transfer of young people between the departments of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) and Children's Services (DCS). A transfer hearing is scheduled before a five-person review panel composed of two representatives each from MHMR and DCS and one representative from the Commission.

A transfer hearing is called when:

1. The transferee objects to a transfer;
2. An emergency transfer is needed; or,
3. A transferee is being returned.

During fiscal year 1999-2000, 13 hearings were held regarding nine children. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility. Seven males and two females were involved in the hearings.

Eight of the 13 transfer hearings were held at the Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute in Nashville, three at Lakeshore in Knoxville, and two at Western Mental Health Institute in Bolivar. ■

During fiscal year 1999-2000 TCCY continued to implement the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) evaluation. This process evaluates the service delivery system designed for children and their families involved in state custody. The ultimate goal of CPORT is to promote positive system change by providing qualitative (measuring quality) and quantitative (objective) information for a process of continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families.

The CPORT evaluation collects and organizes essential information about the population of children served, the needs of the children and families, and the system's ability to adequately perform or function to meet the needs of the children and families it serves. The pertinent information was collected using a special instrument called a protocol. The protocol is a booklet containing a series of in-depth, structured interviews, and each interview contains a set of questions regarding the status of the child and family, the functions of the service delivery system, demographics, and TennCare implementation.

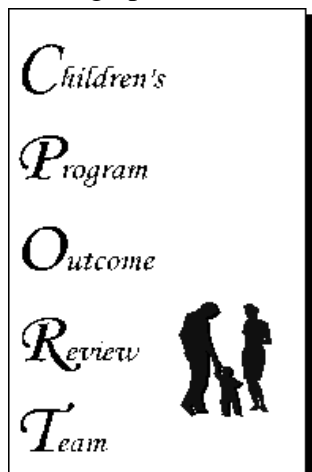
Structured interviews were conducted with the following: child (if age appropriate), parent(s), custodial department worker(s), caregiver(s) (foster parent or direct care staff in a group facility), court representative(s), teacher(s), and other relevant service providers. The case records were reviewed, and Permanency Plans, social histories, and court orders were copied and reviewed. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

The CPORT evaluation, conducted on a calendar-year basis as opposed to a fiscal year, began its seventh year of reviews in March 1, 1999, and involved 45 to 60 randomly selected cases in each of the 12 Community Services Agency regions. Data for 1999 were reflective of the population under the new model of service delivery. By December 10, 1999, 583 cases were reviewed. These data were then summarized and compared to the cases randomly selected for statewide analysis.

The statewide sample consisted of 348 child custody cases and was at expected levels of difference from the total sample because of the impact of regional variations. The sample size was the number of cases needed to be statistically significant at the 95 percent level of confidence statewide within plus or minus five percentage points and at the 85 percent level of confidence for the regional population within plus or minus 10 percentage points.

In 1999, 12 full-time CPORT Case Reviewers determined the status of children and families being served. Thirteen new external reviewers representing a variety of departments and providers were trained to perform CPORT intensive case reviews.

External reviewers were staff members from various direct service agencies, including private providers, juvenile courts, Department of Children's Services (DCS), Department of Correction (DOC), Department of Education (DOE), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR), and



Community Services Agencies (CSA). External reviewers were instrumental in disseminating information about the review process and outcome orientation, which consequently fostered system improvements internally. One external-reviewer training workshop was held in Nashville on February 1-4, 1999.

Reviewer training required intensive instruction and field-work preparation activities focusing on the administration of the CPORT protocol and the procedures required for its use. In addition, basic techniques of interviewing were taught, as well as standards of evaluation and research principles. The full-time case reviewers also spent time in training sessions to review protocol revisions and system changes in order to adequately train external reviewers. A modified training was held on February 5, 1999, to train experienced external reviewers on all revisions. Approximately 26 participants attended training plus TCCY staff.

Necessary revisions and refinements were made to the CPORT protocol and process. This is an integral part of the process. The evaluation suggests improvements in the delivery of services to children and families, and CPORT continually improves the data-gathering process.

The Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL) and the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) provide supplemental assessments to the CPORT review process. These assessment tools were administered during the review process. The CBCL was developed by Thomas M. Achenbach and provided a behavior-rating scale, which assessed behavior problems and social competencies of the children reviewed. The CAFAS was developed by Kay Hodges and was used to assess a child's psychosocial functioning. It has been adopted by several other states for evaluating state-served children.

The CPORT evaluation documented the adequacy of the status of the child and family and how the system is functioning to meet the needs of the child by providing qualitative and quantitative data for continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families. The quantitative data were a result of an examination of 13 status indicators for the child and family and 17 essential system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. The indicators for determining the status of the child and family and for determining the adequacy of service system functions were established by a Design Team representing the DOE, Finance and Administration (F&A), DOH, DHS, MHMR, Youth Development (DYD); Assessment and Care Coordination Team (ACCT); Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ); service providers; and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work (UTCSW). Its function was to develop the specifications for the CPORT evaluation.

The following 13 status indicators were examined for the child and family. Design team members agreed the indicators with asterisks must be found positive for an overall adequate finding regarding the status of the child and family. The indicators were:

1. Safety of the child and community;*
2. Emotional well-being;*
3. Physical well-being;*

4. Caregiver functioning;*
5. Stable home;
6. Permanence;
7. Appropriateness of placement;
8. Educational and vocational progress;
9. Family unification;
10. Independent living if 13 years of age or older;
11. Family satisfaction;
12. Child satisfaction; and,
13. Overall status of child and family.

The reviewers evaluated the following 17 essential system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. Once again, the functions or capabilities with the asterisks must have been found positive for an overall adequate finding for the system. The functions or capabilities were:

1. Assessment of needs;*
2. Long-term view for services;*
3. Child participation;*
4. Family participation;*
5. Service plan design;*
6. Service plan implementation;*
7. Service coordination;*
8. Monitoring change;*
9. Advocacy;
10. Early child and family intervention;
11. Home and community resources;
12. Placement resources;
13. Supportive interventions for staying or returning home;
14. Urgency response;
15. Progress achieved-child;
16. Progress achieved-family; and,
17. Overall adequacy of services.

The quantitative results were then presented at an Exit Conference in each region. Overhead transparencies or a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the data with charts and graphs and a qualitative report summarizing specific strengths, noteworthy accomplishments, and weaknesses of the system were used. The participants in the review process, such as direct service staff; supervisory and management personnel; social counselors and case managers from DCS, CSAs, MHMR, and DOE; placements; and juvenile courts, attended.

Exit Conferences were scheduled following each review to report the data-gathering results. Research standards and guidelines specify the importance of reporting results to all research participants. The average attendance at a CPORT Exit Conference per region was approximately 26 professionals. Statewide, approximately 316 professionals

attended. Additional state agency administrative staff, legislators, and child advocates were also provided copies of the CPORT results. The first Children's Plan Outcome Review Team 1994 Evaluation Results report was published in February 1995. The 1995 CPORT results were published in June 1996, and the 1996 results were published in August 1997. At that time the name of the evaluation project was changed to the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT). The 1997 CPORT results were published in August 1998, the 1998 results were published in June of 1999, and the 1999 results were published in July of 2000.

For 1999, CPORT reported the following data on children in state custody:

- 59 percent of the total petitions were filed by Department of Children's Services/Department of Human Services; law enforcement was second at 14 percent, followed by courts at 9 percent and parents at 8 percent;
- 72 percent of the children were adjudicated dependent; 22 percent, delinquent; and 5 percent, unruly;
- 32 percent of the children were in custody primarily because of the child's behavior problems, and 28 percent, due to neglect by caretaker;
- 46 percent were in a foster placement (including regular and therapeutic custodial department foster homes and regular and therapeutic contracted foster homes); 23 percent were in a group placement (any congregate living environment); 25 percent were with birth or adoptive parents or other relatives; 6 percent were on runaway status;
- 55 percent were 13 years or older; 24 percent were 6 to 12 years; 21 percent were newborns to age 5;
- 58 percent of the children were Caucasian; 35 percent African-American; 7 percent were categorized as "other" (includes Asian-American, Hispanic, and biracial);
- 53 percent of the children were male; 47 percent were female; 46 percent male, 54 percent female was the breakdown on adjudication of dependent/neglect; 33 percent male, 67 percent female, for unruly adjudication; 83 percent male, 17 percent female, for delinquent;
- 41 percent of the children came from single-parent families where the mother was the head of the household; and,
- 55 percent of the children reviewed had parents who were or had been incarcerated; 24 percent involved the father, 15 percent of the families involved the mother, and 17 percent involved both parents.

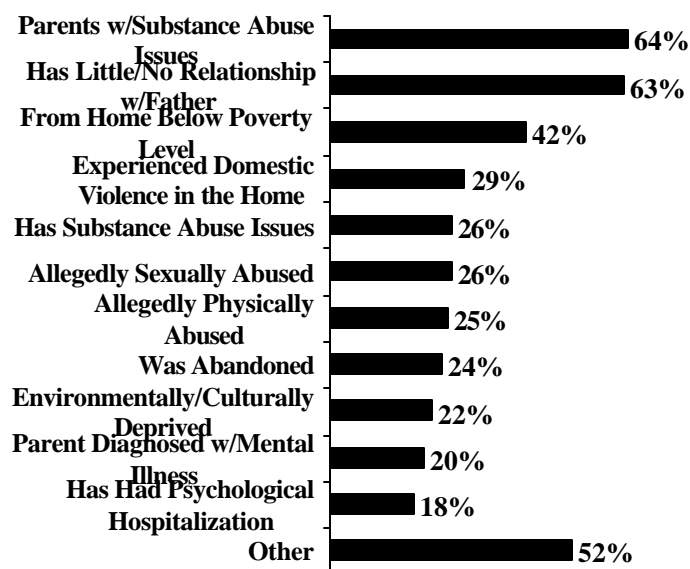
An analysis of the data showed two important findings. First, it appeared custody could have been avoided for 3 percent of the children reviewed if needed services had been provided at the time of custody. This is the same as 1998, compared to 7 percent in 1997, 6 percent in 1996, 12 percent in 1995, and 16 percent in 1994. Another important finding was that children remained in custody too long (26 percent in 1999, 29 percent in 1998, 24 percent in 1997, 22 percent in 1996, 26 percent in 1995, 20 percent in 1994) due to delays in release from custody, delays in termination of parental rights, and delays in the adoption process. The data for custody too long made a dramatic switch from 1998 to 1999. In 1998 there were significantly more children who needed termination of parental

rights (36 percent of those who had been in custody too long), and by 1999 there were significantly more children who had been through termination of parental rights, and now needed to complete adoption (38 percent).

For the past six years CPORT results identified the need for additional attorneys and paralegals to expedite the release of children from custody, terminate parental rights more timely, and complete permanency through adoption. In 1999 the 101st General Assembly passed legislation to fund 36 additional attorneys in order to improve the legal advocacy for children in state custody.

For 1999, children and family conditions that possibly contributed to the risk of entering or remaining in custody were categorized under “Critical Issues.” These are issues characteristic of children and their families that influence the need for services.

Critical Issues for the Child All Cases



The “other” category consisted of a range of issues, including children diagnosed Attention Deficit/Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, children with deceased parents, children diagnosed with mental retardation, children with borderline intellectual functioning, children who were substance exposed prenatally, children who are parents/pregnant, children whose parent(s) have been diagnosed with mental retardation, etc. All of these issues contribute to the child’s emotional and physical well-being and to the need for the system to address them in the form of supportive services for both the child and the family.

Strengths Identified Statewide in 1999 CPORT Findings

- Overwhelmingly children in custody were in a positive status.
- Most children were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.
- Most children were placed in the least restrictive, most appropriate placement.
- Most foster homes were effective in providing a stable, nurturing home-like environment.
- Efforts were made to place siblings together when appropriate.
- The number of unruly children in custody decreased.
- Improvements have been made in addressing the emotional/mental health needs of children in custody.
- More children were in placements closer to home.

Weaknesses Identified Statewide in 1999 CPORT Findings

- Many children remained in custody too long.
- Separation/confusion regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Home County Case Manager and the Residential Case Manager resulted in no clear point of responsibility.
- Substantial turnover and vacancies in positions resulted in lack of continuity for children and families.
- Many Permanency Plans were inadequate.
- A majority of caseworkers possessed 18 months or less experience.
- Many children experienced multiple placements (four or more).
- A number of children experienced excessive stays in detentions, emergency shelters and diagnostic shelters.
- Many families were not receiving needed services to facilitate reunification.
- Many children needing psychological evaluations failed to receive them.
-

CPORT Findings on the Status of the Child/Family Reported as Percents

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
➤ Cases reviewed in an overall positive status	74	75	79	83	81	87
➤ Safety of children positive	91	93	92	93	95	95
➤ Children's physical well-being addressed	95	94	96	95	99	98
➤ Children placed with adequate caregivers	90	92	91	94	94	96
➤ The child's emotional well-being was being addressed	78	78	82	84	85	90
➤ Families were receiving services to remain intact or to reunify with children	58	62	66	68	60	74
➤ Families were satisfied with services received	85	59	67	69	65	70

The overall status of the child/family was 87 percent positive in 1999 and was the best overall since 1994. The safety and physical well-being of children remained a strength.

Inadequate emotional well-being of the child was the primary reason for the child to be determined in a negative status. This area improved from 85 percent in 1998 to 90 percent in 1999. Children who were rated negative in emotional well-being most frequently were in need of treatment because of issues related to abandonment, separation and attachment, grief and loss, and sexual or physical abuse. Services to address these issues were not always being provided, and/or not recognized as a treatment need. Consequently, children were not always able to access appropriate mental health services.

Families not receiving services appeared to be the greatest overall deficiency, although improved from 60 percent in 1998 to 74 percent in 1999, indicating a more focused approach in providing services to families. The lack of services to families would have a direct result in children returning home in a timely manner and maintaining a successful reunification. Families not receiving services had a mutual relationship with families not satisfied because they were not always receiving appropriate services in a timely manner at the level needed.

CPORT Findings on Adequacy of Service System Functions Reported as Percents

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
➤ Service system functioned adequately to meet needs of child/family	40	46	51	33	46
➤ Assessment of needs of child/family	80	86	86	73	70
➤ Plan of Care design	63	71	72	48	63
➤ Service plan implementation	66	67	73	69	79
➤ Service coordination	61	65	70	59	67
➤ Monitoring/change	61	66	72	60	74
➤ Supportive intervention for children to stay or return home	64	65	72	64	76
➤ Progress achieved by family	50	56	56	52	55

Overall, the system performed adequately 46 percent of the time. This is a significant increase from 1998. While the system's ability to identify child and family problems had been a strength from 1995 to 1997, in 1999 children were adequately assessed at 70 percent, the lowest performance ever on this indicator. Service plan design (63 percent) was the weakest indicator, contributing to the overall system inadequacy.

Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) Findings Summary


Among the cases reviewed, the most problems in functioning were reported in two domains: role performance (the effectiveness with which the child fulfills the roles most relevant to his or her place in the community) and behavior toward self or others. Almost two-thirds of the children (62 percent) were rated as impaired in at least one of five areas, with 42 percent receiving impaired ratings in two or more areas. Overall, the CAFAS total scores indicated the following treatment needs for the sample population of children and youth in state care: 38 percent needed supportive intervention; 19 percent, short-term



treatment (up to six months); 15 percent, periodic treatment over a six- to 24- month period; and 28 percent, long-term treatment (one to five years). This indicates a significant proportion of children needing long-term care.

Thirty-six percent of the children had a formal mental health diagnosis reported, and, of these, many were also rated with moderate or severe impairment in psychosocial functioning. Twenty-five percent of the CAFAS sample could be classified as seriously emotionally disturbed (SED).

2000 CPORT Reviews

In late 1999 the CPORT protocol was revised, and full-time case reviewers were trained on the new protocol as well as system changes. One external-reviewer training workshop was held on January 31-February 3, 2000. Seven new external reviewers, plus three representatives from the TennCare Consumer Advocacy Program, were trained to adequately implement the review process. In addition, one modified training workshop was conducted on February 4, 2000. The modified training included TCCY staff and past external reviewers. The 2000 CPORT reviews began February 16, 2000, and as of June 30, 2000, 297 cases had been reviewed, encompassing six of the 12 CSA regions. 

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-106 requires the Commission on Children and Youth to organize a regional council on children and youth in each of the state's nine developmental districts. It establishes the councils as the ongoing communication link between the Commission and regional and local areas in Tennessee. The statute requires one locally based staff person for each regional council and identifies the following duties of the councils:

- To provide for mutual exchange of information and networking among service providers, advocates, and elected officials;
- To educate council members, officials, others involved in services for children and youth, and the general public concerning the needs and problems of children and youth in the region and the state;
- To coordinate regional and local efforts between public and private service providers to enhance services for children and youth;
- To advocate for legislation, policies, and programs at the local and regional level to promote and protect the health, well-being, and development of children and youth; and,
- To collect, compile, and distribute data and to make recommendations of the needs and problems of children and youth.

In fiscal year 1999-2000, more than 3,000 community representatives and professionals were members of the nine regional councils. The information below presents the nine regions and the regional coordinators. Summary information about each council is presented on the following pages.

TCCY Regional Councils and the Coordinators

Kim McGehee
Northwest Council
Post Office Box 807
Union City, TN 38281
(901) 884-2630
(901) 884-2644(Fax)
kmcgehee@mail.state.tn.us

Lisa Lund
Mid-Cumberland Council
Andrew Johnson Tower, 9th Fl.
710 James Robertson Pky.
Nashville, TN 37243-0800
(615) 523-1579
(615) 741-5956 (Fax)
llund@mail.state.tn.us

Kathy Daniels
Upper Cumberland
435 Gould Drive
Cookeville, TN 38506
(931) 432-4494
(931) 432-6995
kdaniels@mail.state.tn.us

Robert Smith
East Tennessee
531 Henley St., 7th Fl.
Knoxville, TN 37902
(865) 594-6658
(Voice and Fax)
rsmith9@mail.state.tn.us

Diane Wise
Northeast Council
1233 Southwest Ave.,
Extension
Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 979-3200 Ext 105
(423) 979-3267 (Fax)
dwise@mail.state.tn.us

Gwendolyn Glenn
Memphis/Shelby County
170 N. Main St.
Memphis, TN 38103
(901) 543-7657
(901) 543-6462 (Fax)
gglen@mail.state.tn.us

Rodger Jowers
Southwest Council
Lowell Thomas Bldg., Box 13
225 Martin Luther King Drive
Jackson, TN 38301
(901) 423-6545 (Voice/Fax)
rjowers@mail.state.tn.us

Elaine Williams
South Central Council
Post Office Box 397
Columbia, TN 38402-0397
(931) 388-1053
(931) 381-2053 (Fax)
ewilliams@sctdd.org

Marilyn Davis
Southeast Council
540 McCallie Ave., Ste. 643
Chattanooga, TN 37402
(423) 634-6210
(423) 634-3094 (Fax)
mdavis@mail.state.tn.us

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Northeast Tennessee Council On Children and Youth

1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension

Johnson City, TN 37604

Phone: (423) 979-3200, Extension 105

FAX: (423) 979-3267

Coordinator: Diane Wise

E-mail: dwise@mail.state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Council has 381 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Diane Cupp, Johnson City Juvenile Court
Past President	Marian Hensley, Holston United Methodist Home
Vice President	Diana Finlay, Frontier Health
President Elect	Lt. Mark Sirois, Johnson City Police Bureau
Secretary	Terry Henson, Carter County Health Department
Treasurer	Beverly Lovegrove, Advocate

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative	Ronald Helsabeck, Department of Children's Services Arthur Masker, Holston United Methodist Home
Juvenile Justice	O. Kirk Lane, Department of Children's Services
Child and Family Support	Linda Holden, Sullivan County Schools Randy Hensley, Coalition for Kids
Membership/Nominating	Donna Sowers, Johnson City Schools Patti Fatherree, Johnson City Schools
Hospitality/Public Relations	Beth Rader, Department of Health Jewel Shipley, Department of Health
Regional Advocacy	Jennifer Berven, Northeast Tennessee Community Services Agency

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

September 24, 1999	Held in Conjunction with Seminar on Violence in Schools
November 5, 1999	Tax Reform/An Educational Forum
February 4, 2000	Adoption Services for Children in State Guardianship
May 5, 2000	Activities of the 101 st General Assembly

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

September 24, 1999	"Planning for the Unimaginable/Violence in Schools" Seminar
February 11, 2000	Breakfast for our Legislators
March 22, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day
April 24, 2000	"Alphabet Soup for the Abused Child's Soul" Seminar

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

The 1999-2000 Northeast Tennessee Council's Child Advocacy Award was presented to Marian Hensley, administrator of Early Childhood Ministries of Holston United Methodist Home for Children.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

East Tennessee Council On Children and Youth

531 Henley Street, Suite 735
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone: (865) 594-6658
FAX: (865) 594-6658
Coordinator: Robert E. Smith
E-mail: rsmith9@mail.state.tn.us

East Tennessee Council Membership

The East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth has 317 members representing the 16 counties in the region: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union.

East Tennessee Council Officers

President	Carolyn Stinnett, Ph.D., Knox County Family Resource Center
President-Elect	Sue Nance, East Tennessee Community Services Agency
Secretary	Jennifer Yonke, Florence Crittenton Agency
Treasurer	Claudia Ritchie, Department of Children's Services

East Tennessee Council Committees

Executive Committee	Carolyn Stinnett, Ph.D., Knox County Family Resource Center
Nominating Committee	Charlayne Frazier, Knox County Health Department
Legislative Committee	Tannis Duncan, Sevier County Schools, Special Education
Membership Committee	Patricia Pearson, East Tennessee Community Services Agency
Juvenile Justice/Community Education Committee	Sue Nance, East Tennessee Community Services Agency

East Tennessee Council Meetings

September 1, 1999	Combating Illiteracy
November 3, 1999	Tennessee Advocacy Center: Planned Services; Also, "Virus of Violence" Video Presentation
January 5, 2000	"School Safety: What Have We Learned?" A Discussion with Representatives of three School Systems and Sheriff's Department
February 2, 2000	Information and Referral Services for Children and Families: Panel Discussion
March 1, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day Preparation Legislative Update
May 3, 2000	Awards Presentation/Installation of New Officers. Presentation: Knoxville Legal Aid Society

East Tennessee Council Special Events

October 6, 1999	Enhancing Children's Emotional Well-Being In Educational Environments: A Mental Illness Awareness Week Event
December 3, 1999	Public Official's Breakfast
March 21-22, 2000	Children's Rights Conference/Children's Advocacy Day
April 5, 2000	Juvenile Justice Seminar: The Other Side of Youth Violence: Children as Victims

East Tennessee Council Awards

The Dr. Mildred Doyle Advocate Of The Year Award 1999-2000 winner was Dr. Carolyn Stinnett, Knox County Family Resource Center. The Dr. Mame MacIlwain Volunteer Of The Year Award 1999-2000 winner was Cynthia Hudson, Knox-Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, and Charlayne Frazier, Knox County Health Promotion.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Southeast Tennessee Council On Children And Youth

540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 643
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: (423) 634-6210
FAX: (423) 634-3094
Coordinator: Marilyn Davis
E-mail: mdavis@mail.state.tn.us

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership:

The Southeast Council has 366 members representing the 10 counties in the region: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers: Hiwassee Council Officers:

President: James Nelson
Title VI, Hamilton County
Vice President: Shula Yelliot
Volunteer Center of Chattanooga
Secretary: Jennifer Jackson
Community Foundation
Treasurer: Jamie Bergmann
Invest In Children

President: Erin Creal
Family and Children's Services
Vice President: Lisa Mantooth
Family Friends
Secretary: Shannon Bishop
Cleveland City Schools
Legislative: Shirley DeWitt
Polk County Schools
Denise Williams
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Public Relations: Eddie Jewell
SETHRA-Youth Services
Nominations/Awards: Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Liesl Martz
Hiwassee Mental Health
Membership: Sharon Putnam
Southeast Community Services Agency

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees And Chairs:

Legislative:	Max Hood, Greenleaf
Public Relations:	Frank Hill, Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Hospitality:	Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Center Charlesia Brewer, Public Education Foundation
Nominations/Awards:	Michelle Bostwick
Membership:	Sharon Putnam, Southeast Community Services Jeanne Bille, Hamilton County Health Department
Juvenile Justice/Youth Issues:	All Committee Chairs

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings And Topics

Southeast Council: September 22, 1999	Initiatives For Children: Invest In Children and Parents Place: A Different Type of Collaborative, Jamie Bergmann and Liz Jenkins
Hiwassee Council: October 13, 1999	Hot Topics For Juvenile Justice, Rebecca Montgomery, Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Southeast Council: November 17, 1999	The Effects of Media and Video Game Violence on Children -Video, Panel: Dorothy Stephens, facilitator, Fortwood Center; Chris Albright, Administrator, Hamilton County Juvenile Court; Officer John Carter, School Resource Officer, Howard High School

REGIONAL COUNCILS



Hiwassee Council: December 1, 1999	BADGE (Building Attitudes During Group Experiences) Lt. Jeff Francis, Chattanooga Police Department; Connie Patterson, Family and Children's Services
Southeast Council: January 13 and 14, 2000	Children's Rights Conference: Due Process Rights, State Custody Rights, Disproportionate Minority Confinement, EPSDT and TennCare, Public Education Rights.
Hiwassee Council: February 2, 2000	JADE – Juvenile Alcohol and Drug Education: Lisa Wiley, Bradley County Juvenile Court LEAF – Law Enforcement Academic and Fitness Academy; Nancy Stanfield, Bradley County Juvenile Court
Southeast Council: March 16, 2000	No Choice, The Time Has Come: System of Care For Mental Health. Jim Griffin, Tennessee Voices for Children
Hiwassee Council: April 19, 2000	“The Virus of Violence” Video and Panel Presentation: Judge James McKenzie, Rhea County Juvenile and Family Court; Dan Howell, Anchor, Fox 61 WDSI – TV; Dr. Norman West, Southeast Department of Children's Services; Dean Anderson, SRO, Bradley County Junior High School
Southeast Council: May 17, 2000	Childhood Violent Behavior: The Effect Of Child Abuse, Media Violence, and Traumatic Head Injury: Norman West, Ph.D., Southeast Department of Children's Services, Tom Pendergrass, Ph.D., Private Practice

Southeast Council Special Events

October 20, 1999	Sequatchie Valley Networking Meeting
January 13-14, 2000	Children's Rights Conference
March 22, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day In Nashville

Special Projects For Children and Youth

Polk County Family Resource Center – Christmas Donation for Needy Children, Hamilton County Juvenile Court, Intensive Probation Program – Christmas Party Donation for Students

Hamilton County Santa For All Seasons – Christmas Donation for Children in Foster Care
Chattanooga Schools for the Creative Arts – Donation for Youth Performance Group Activities

Council Awards

Advocacy:	Trudy Hughes, Children's Advocacy Center Charlotte Boatwright, Coalition Against Family and Community Violence
Outstanding Service:	Connie Patterson, Family and Children's Services Jesse Hewlett, University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Services

Hiwassee Council Award

Advocacy:	Shirley DeWitt, Retired, Polk County Schools
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REGIONAL COUNCILS

Upper Cumberland Council On Children and Youth

435 Gould Drive
Cookeville, TN 38506
Phone: (931) 432-4494
FAX: (931) 432-6995
Coordinator: Kathy Daniels
E-mail: kdaniels@mail.state.tn.us

Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 253 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren, and White. Eighty-five agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Kelly Bush, Director, Family Resource Center, Smith County
Vice President	Felicia Prowse, Coordinator, Family Home Day Care Registration, Tennessee Tech University
Secretary	Charlene Hall, Families and Schools Together (FAST), Crossville
Treasurer	Derrick Young, Director, TRIAD Group Home, Putnam County

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive	Council Officers, Past President and Chairpersons
Legislative	Dr. Sherrie Foster, University of Tennessee
Youth Issues/Juvenile Justice	Mike Gasz, Director, Camelot Cares
Prevention	Pamela Ramsey, U.C. Community Services Agency
Membership	Shelly Painter, Family Day Care, Tennessee Technological University
Nominating	Clydene Roberts, Van Buren County Family Resource Center

Upper Cumberland Regional Council Meetings and Topics

September 24, 1999	Networking Conference, KIDS on the BLOCK
October 5, 1999	"Parent to Parent," UCCSA and Putnam County Schools
November 2, 1999	"What to do with the Mad You Feel," WCTE-TV
December 7, 1999	"Structured Athletics for Challenged Children," SACC
February 8, 2000	"Depression in Children," Camelot Cares
March 7, 2000	"STEP," A School Violence Prevention Program
April 4, 2000	Mini-Conference, "Managing At Risk Children," Dr. Bill Allen
May 9, 2000	"Project BABY," Cumberland County Schools

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

July 22, 1999	Co-Sponsored Truancy Forum with Cumberland County Juvenile Court
September 24, 1999	Third Annual Upper Cumberland Networking Conference
November 10, 1999	Juvenile Justice Training featuring Rebecca Montgomery
February 14, 2000	Legislative Reception for Senator Burks and Representative Jere Hargrove
March 22, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day

Upper Cumberland Council Award

The 2000 Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Merrill Harris, DeKalb County Special Education teacher and long-time advocate for children.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Mid-Cumberland Council On Children And Youth

710 James Robertson Parkway, Ninth Floor

Nashville, TN 37243-0800

Phone: (615) 532-1579

FAX: (615) 741-5956

Coordinator: Lisa Lund

E-mail: llund@mail.state.tn.us

Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 910 members representing the 13 counties in the region. The counties and the county representatives are Cheatham (Kim Moore), Davidson (Rhonda Simpson), Dickson (Beth Mitchell), Houston (Jennifer Robinson), Humphreys (Annette Puckett), Montgomery (Vonda St. Amant), Robertson (Carolyn Perry), Rutherford (Cheryl Hultman), Stewart (Elaine Jackson), Sumner (Susan McDaniel), Trousdale (Susan McDaniel), Williamson (Betsy Adgent), and Wilson (Kent Brummett).

Mid-Cumberland Council Officers

President

Darci Halfman, Monroe Harding Children's Home

Past President

Cheryl Patton, Community Advocate

Vice President

Kelley Binkley, TRAC, Inc.

Secretary

Elizabeth Reinhardt, Omni Visions, Inc.

Treasurer

Rainey Gibson, Camelot Care

Mid-Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Child and Adolescent Health

Sonya Manfred, Sumner County Health Department

Child Welfare

Barbara Wallace, Therapeutic Interventions, Inc.

Rhonda Allen, Residential Services Inc.

Juvenile Justice

Thom Garrison, Centerstone Mental Health Center

Sam Worley, Domestic Violence Intervention Program

Legislative

Nancy Denning, Monroe Harding Children's Home

Mark Just, Mental Health Co-op

Membership

Phillip Many, University of Tennessee

Mid-Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

November 18, 1999

"KIDS IN CRISIS"

December 16, 1999

"Review of Current Juvenile Detention Statute,
Recommendations of Changes in Juvenile Law from Juvenile
Justice Reform Commission"

February 25, 2000

Legislative Breakfast "What Tennessee is Doing for its Children"

April 19, 2000

Eighth Annual Networking Conference in Clarksville

June 7, 2000

"Juvenile Court Centennial Initiative"

Mid-Cumberland Council Special Events

October 7, 1999

HIV/AIDS Rally

September 8, 1999

Children's Rights Conference

January 12, 2000

Davidson County Exit Conference

March 23, 2000

Children's Advocacy Day

April 2000

Child Abuse Prevention Month observed in all counties

June 23, 2000

Mid-Cumberland Region CPORT Exit Conference

Mid-Cumberland Council Award

The MCCY 1999 Child Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Cheryl Hultman of Exchange Child Abuse Prevention Center in Rutherford. Also named Child Advocate of the Year for individual counties were Kim Moore of Cheatham, Beth Mitchell of Dickson, Elizabeth Reinhardt of Davidson, Vonda St. Amant of Montgomery, Carolyn Perry of Robertson, Thom Garrison of Sumner, and Kent Brummett of Wilson.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

South Central Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

815 South Main Street
Post Office Box 397
Columbia, TN 38402-0397
Phone: (931) 388-1053 or 381-2040
FAX: (931) 381-2053
Coordinator: Francis Elaine Williams
ewilliams@sctdd.org or ewilla2@mail.state.tn.us

South Central Tennessee Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council has 278 members representing but not limited to the 13 counties in the region: Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, Perry, and Wayne.

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	James Martin, Columbia Cares
Vice President	Elizabeth Rasori, Marshall County Juvenile Court
Secretary/Treasurer	Nedra Dailey, Giles County Juvenile Court

South Central Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Executive/Juvenile Justice	Gerald Geho, Lawrence Cares
CARE Committee	Wayne Tatum, Child Advocate
Legislative	Elizabeth Rasori, Marshall County Juvenile Court

South Central Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

August 16, 1999	General Business Meeting, Election of Officers and Plans for 1999-2000
October 1, 1999	Fall Conference: Making Music not Excuses, National Fire Protection Association Workshop on Safety, Career Pathways, and NET (Neighborhood Enforcement Team – a collaborative effort between the Columbia Police Department, the court and the school system).
April 18, 2000	Council Business and Networking Meeting, Council Awards Presentation
August 22, 2000	Community Asset Mapping: The Results and a Profile of Children in State Custody

South Central Tennessee Council Special Events

July-August, 1999	County Meetings for New Member Orientation
August 10, 1999	South Central CPORT Findings Presented to Council
December 4, 1999	I Am For Kids – A Delinquency Prevention Workshop
March 21-22, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day and Children's Rights Conference
July-August, 2000	Communities that Care: Hosted eight County Meetings in collaboration with the South Central Workforce Investment Act – Local Area 10 related to children dropping out of school and getting prepared to enter the workforce.

Mid-Cumberland Council Award

The Child Advocate of the Year was awarded to Ruth Davis, South Central Regional Health Facility, Columbia, and the Children's Services Award was given to Dana Simpson, consultant, Tullahoma.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Northwest Council on Children and Youth

Post Office Box 807
1604 West Reelfoot Avenue
Union City, TN 38281
Phone: (901) 884-2630
FAX: (901) 884-2644
Coordinator: Kim McGehee
kmcgehee@mail.state.tn.us

Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 223 members representing the nine counties in the region: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President	Denise Nichols, Baptist Behavioral Health Care
Vice President	Kim Stephenson, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.
Secretary	Joetta Yarbrow, Family Resource Center, Dyersburg City Schools
Treasurer	Becky Holland, Family Resource Center, Henry County

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention	Bret Brooks, Northwest CSA Michelle Horton, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.
Juvenile Justice	Steve Isbell, Dyersburg Police Department Teresa Seaton, Obion County Juvenile Court
Legislative	Kris Moore, Youth Villages David Hartshaw, Gibson County Juvenile Education Academy
Membership	Sherry White, St. Francis Hospital Outreach Center Lori Hendon, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.

Northwest Council Meeting and Topics

December 3, 1999	“Y2Kids – Looking to Children’s Issues in a New Millennium” – The Third Joint Conference of the Northwest and Southwest Councils
March 2000	Juvenile Justice Conference
March 21-22, 2000	Children’s Advocacy Day and Children’s Rights Conference
June 9, 2000	Summer Conference/REALITY Program, Body Piercing/ADHD/Transition from DandE to PTC



REGIONAL COUNCILS

Southwest Tennessee Council On Children And Youth

Lowell Thomas State Office Building, Box 13
225 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive
Jackson, TN 38301
Phone: (901) 423-6545
FAX: (901) 423-6545
Coordinator: Rodger D. Jowers
E-mail: rjowers@mail.state.tn.us

Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 147 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison, and Tipton.

Southwest Council Officers

Chairperson	Karen Smith, Southwest Community Service Agency
Vice-Chairperson	Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home, Henderson
Secretary	Thelma Barker, Jackson-Madison County School District
Treasurer	Janis McCall, Citizen Advocate, Henderson

Southwest Council Committees and Chairs

Bylaws	June Perrigan, Citizen Advocate, Jackson
Children's Advocacy Day	John Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home
Juvenile Justice	Jane Jarvis, West Tennessee Legal Services
Legislative	Pam Ford Wright, Tennessee Justice Center
Membership	Delaine Bottoms, Exchange Club/Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Southwest Council Meetings and Topics

September 30, 1999	"Changing Mental Health Law – What Does It Mean for Children"
December 3, 1999	"Y2Kids – Looking to Children's Issues in a New Millennium" – The Third Joint Conference of the Northwest and Southwest Councils
April 14, 2000	"CPORT Exit Conference" and "Briefings About New JAIBG Projects in the Southwest Region"
June 30, 2000	"Emerging Opportunities in Child and Family Law" - in cooperation with the West Tennessee Legal Services Pro Bono Project

Southwest Council Special Events

September 14, 1999	Site visit by OJJDP State Representative for Tennessee
September 14, 1999	Training for Prospective Applicants to OJJDP Formula and Title V Grants
September 15, 1999	"Promising Practices for Safe and Effective Schools" – a national videoconference co-hosted by the Southwest Council
October 15, 1999	"Building Bridges: Strengthening Schools and Communities" – a national videoconference co-hosted by the Southwest Council
October 24, 1999	"TN Kids Growing and Learning – An Encore Presentation" – a rebroadcast of the videoconference, co-sponsored by the Council
November 6, 1999	<i>Early Brain Development</i> display at the Annual Conference of the Jackson Area Association for the Young Child Annual Meeting
November 6, 1999	Child Care Safety Campaign presentation for the Jackson Area Association for the Young Child Annual Meeting
March 19, 2000	Presentation of the <i>Early Brain Development</i> display at Babyfest 2000
March 22, 2000	Children's Advocacy Day

Council Awards

"Most Outstanding Advocate of the Year" is an annual recognition of a child service worker, nominated by council members or peers for outstanding achievement and contribution to the lives of children in the Southwest Region. No award was made in fiscal year 2000.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Memphis/Shelby County Children And Youth Council

170 N. Main St. 9th Floor

Memphis, TN 38103

Phone: (901) 543-7657

FAX: (901) 543-6462

E-mail: gglenn@mail.state.tn.us

Coordinator: Gwendolyn Glenn

Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 190 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President

Leigh Ann Jordan, U. S. Attorney's Office

President-Elect

Mona Winfrey, Special Kids and Families

Secretary

Clementine Perry, Department of Children's Services

Treasurer

Sheronda Smith, Porter Leath Children's Center

Memphis/Shelby County Committees And Chairs

Prevention

Diana Bedwell, Porter Leath Children's Center

Youth and Juvenile Justice

Kim Bishop, Lifetime Therapy

Legislative

Bobbie Thompson, Department of Human Services

Juanita White, Department of Children's Services

Executive

Leigh Anne Jordon, U. S. Attorney's Office

Meetings And Topics

August 25, 1999

Juvenile Justice Issues

November 23, 1999

Quality Child Care in the New Millennium

February 23, 2000

Child Abuse Prevention Services

May 31, 2000

Delivering Services To A Diverse Population

Council Events

September 15, 1999

Satellite Videoconference, "Promising Practices for Safe and Effective Schools" co-sponsored with LeBonheur Children's Medical Center

December 1, 1999

Annual Legislative Reception


February 24, 2000

"In The Director's Chair...Program Administration," second in the series.

March 23, 2000

Annual Spring Conference-"The 21st Century Express...Are Our Children On Board?"

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

Clementine Perry with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services was the recipient of the Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award. 

KIDS COUNT Project Publications

The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is part of a national effort to track the status of children throughout the United States. KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions of ways to secure better futures for all children by providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being. Publications completed and promoted during fiscal year 1999-2000 included *The State of the Child in Tennessee 2000*; and the national KIDS COUNT projects the *Kids Count Data Book*, released in June, and *The Right Start*, released in December.

KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee

At the state level, the principal activity of the Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is the publication and dissemination of the annual *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* uses the best available data to measure the physical, educational, social, and economic well-being of children and families in the state. The report also fulfills TCCY's mandate, according to Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(a)(1)(F), to annually publish "a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee."

This 120-page report produced in fiscal year 1999-2000, presented data on 31 statistical indicators on the well-being of children from birth to age 18. The report narrative used national trends and other information to add a contextual framework for the statistics. Sixty-one graphics and 32 tables were used to illustrate the statistical information. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* was widely disseminated in Tennessee, and to a limited extent, nationally. The 31 indicators are as follows:

- TennCare;
- WIC;
- Teen Pregnancy and Birth;
- Prenatal Care;
- Low-Birth-Weight Babies;
- Infant Mortality;
- Child Death;
- Immunizations;
- Teen Death;
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse;
- School Nutrition;
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- Mental Health;
- Education;
- Special Education;
- High School Dropouts;
- Child Care;
- Head Start;
- Population;

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

- Labor and Unemployment;
- Housing;
- Single Parent Families;
- Families First;
- Food Stamps;
- Tax Burden;
- Income and Poverty;
- Domestic Violence;
- Child Abuse;
- Juvenile Justice;
- Children in State Custody;
- School Safety.
-

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* were the Tennessee departments of Children's Services, Education, Employment Security, Health, Human Services, and the TennCare Bureau; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Business and Economic Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University; the Business and Economic Research Center, University of Tennessee; the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and other state agencies; and various state and national reports.

National KIDS COUNT Data Book

At the national level, the principal activity of the KIDS COUNT Project is the publication of the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, which uses the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. Individual states and the District of Columbia are ranked on 10 indicators of child well-being. Tennessee ranked 45th overall in the national data book released in 2000. The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project works with the Casey Foundation and Podesta Associates, the Casey Foundation's public relations firm, to disseminate and publicize the findings of the Data Book. TCCY also distributed a national KIDS COUNT Program report on the conditions of babies and families in America's largest cities, *The Right Start*.

The Advocate Newsletter

TCCY publishes *The Advocate*, a newsletter on children's issues, to inform children's advocates, children's service providers, legislators, policy makers, and regional council members about children's issues. During fiscal year 1999-2000, TCCY produced and distributed nearly 5,000 copies each of four issues of *The Advocate*.

The first 1999-2000 issue of *The Advocate* was released in August 1999 and focused on the critical issues related to brain development in children. The issue included information on current research and gave examples of interventions for both parents and other caregivers. It also included reports on the budget increase to improve services to children in state custody.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

The December 1999 issue of *The Advocate* focused on mental health issues for the United States and the state. Included in the issue was a summary of the work completed by the Title 33 Revision Commission. Tennessee and U.S. statistics on suicide and techniques for early recognition and intervention were included in the narrative and several graphics. In addition, preliminary findings from the IMPACT study were published that identified the health-related needs reported for children with serious emotional disturbances (SED)

The April 2000 issue of *The Advocate* was written on child care and the need for quality child care in the state. Statistics were presented to illustrate how Tennessee compared to the United States, as well as information about the needs identified for child care by the Department of Human Services. Included in this edition was a report on Children's Advocacy Day and the winners of the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy and Making KIDS COUNT Media awards.

The issue published in June of 2000 focused on Juvenile Justice issues and the deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO). A letter from the chair of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the Commission presented the enforcement mechanism adopted by the Commission on Children and Youth. A summary of the successes, situational causes, and definitions emphasized the complexity of DSO violations.

The newsletters also included events of interest to child advocates and reports from TCCY's regional councils.

News Media Contacts

Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year. The Tennessee Department of Health's HIT or Health Information Tennessee and SPOT web sites provided access to *The State of the Child* 2000 database to Internet users. TCCY also made the information available on the agency's Website (www.state.tn.us/tccy).

TCCY also improved its tracking and reporting on media coverage. Stories on the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* were broadcast on numerous radio and television stations across the state. More than 39 stories, including three editorials, appeared in Tennessee newspapers in fiscal year 1999-2000. Both large and small papers ran several-part articles on the reports expanding KIDS COUNT coverage to days or weeks. In addition, TCCY staff members reported being contacted by 34 representatives of the media, including 10 people representing radio stations; 12 representing television stations; 10, newspapers; and two, wire services or other groups serving many outlets.

During the fiscal year 1999-2000, the *2000 KIDS COUNT: State of the Child in Tennessee*, which was released in late June 1999, was covered in 20 newspaper articles. TCCY staff members were contacted by one representative of a newspaper. Also, in the previous year, 33 newspaper articles reported information from the KIDS COUNT publication.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

In December 1999, the national KIDS COUNT project produced *The Right Start* a publication that focused on infant health and well-being in the nation's largest cities, which TCCY helped to promote. The only two Tennessee cities included in the book were Memphis and Nashville. Three articles were printed in newspapers as a result of TCCY activity, and TCCY staff members had three contacts with the media, including representatives of one television station and two newspapers.

In addition to the KIDS COUNT Project news coverage, other TCCY programs, events, and staff members received coverage in 85 newspaper articles, including 24 articles about the Children's Rights Conferences and Child Advocacy Day, five on funding, 12 on DSO violations and juvenile justice issues, 16 on the ChildrenFirst license plate, 14 on regional events and awards, and 14 on other issues. Staff members were interviewed by more than 28 members of the media, including representatives from four radio stations, seven television stations, 12 newspapers, and five other media.

One agency newsletter reprinted information on brain development from *The Advocate*.

Website

During the 1999-2000 year, the TCCY Website was expanded as a vehicle to convey information. The *KIDS COUNT State of the Child* was placed on the web in a pdf format that replicated the hard copy publication. The TCCY calendar of events and a listing of information sources on social service providers were also added to the site. In October of 1999 the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth began keeping statistics on the number of visits to the site. Between October of 1999 and June 30, 2000, the Website had 52,711 hits. Usage peaked in March with 7,545 hits.

Juvenile Justice Publications

TCCY contracts with Lexis Publishing to publish *The Tennessee Compilation of Selected Laws on Children, Youth, and Families*. Nearly 2,000 copies were distributed to juvenile courts, state government staff, and other children's services professionals. Members of the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges have asked for annual updates of the compilation when financially possible. ■

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's Ombudsman for Children and Families serves as a neutral reviewer of questions and concerns regarding state child custody services. As a neutral reviewer, the Ombudsman is understood to be an advocate for the child, family, and service system when appropriate. It should be underscored that the Ombudsman will not mediate a dispute resolution that is contrary to the best interests of the child or is inconsistent with the law or state policy. Additionally, the Ombudsman cannot and will not:

- serve as an agent of law enforcement;
- find individual fault, act as an attorney;
- provide legal advice, or,
- in any way participate in a case that is imminently bound for court upon the petition of termination of parental rights, abuse, neglect, dependency, or child custody.

Any individual who has knowledge of a child or family who may be the recipient of state custody services may contact the Ombudsman program with his or her questions or concerns. To date, referrals have been received from representatives of the following:

- the departments of Children Services, Education, Health, and Mental Health and Mental Retardation;
- the governor's regional offices;
- juvenile court judges and staff, various Legal Services offices, private legal representatives;
- therapists and residential services providers;
- foster parents;
- biological and adoptive parents, family members;
- neighbors; and,
- child and family services ombudsmen from other states.

Upon initial contact, the Ombudsman will first determine if the referent has attempted to resolve his or her question or concern through normal administrative channels. The Ombudsman program is not designed or intended to supersede the existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the child and family services system. Referents who have not attempted to have their concerns answered in this manner are informed of the appropriate contacts for their specific issue. When referents have valid reasons to depart from normal administrative systems or have attempted these and been dissatisfied with the results, the Ombudsman may accept the referral.

During the data-gathering phase of the referral review, the Ombudsman initiates a series of structured interviews with individuals directly involved in the child's and family's custody case. These contacts may include the parent or parents, Department of Children's Services case manager or probation officer, Department of Children's Services field services management or central office staff, juvenile court staff, direct caregiver, residential provider, foster parent, therapist, counselor, Home TIES therapist, guardian ad litem, attorney, managed care organization (MCO) representative, behavioral health

organization (BHO) representative, private insurance representative, medical provider, teacher, school principal, school superintendent, relatives, and friends.

Preliminary contacts are used to:

- verify referral information specific to the child's custody status;
- the type and level of services provided; and,
- facts specific to the question or concern.

Following initial interviews, follow-up contacts are used on an ongoing basis to share information among parties involved in the case. The data-gathering phase of the referral process may require anywhere from two days to two weeks on any given case.

Through case-specific contacts, the validity of the question or concern is determined. Referrals determined to emerge from a lack of information or misinformation concerning state custody services result in Ombudsman efforts to provide the referent with accurate and pertinent information. This information may be provided directly by the Ombudsman, when appropriate, or a topic-related expert, when available or necessary.

Referrals determined to emerge from issues related to the referent's concern about or mistrust of the information provided within the children's services system are responded to with a neutral explanation of policies and procedures by the Ombudsman. Referrals that emerge from issues related to specific complicating factors resulting in obstacles to the agreed case outcome or the best interests of the child result in mediation facilitated by the Ombudsman. Building on a common goal – the best interests of the child – the Ombudsman facilitates communication between all parties involved in a problematic case. Mediation efforts lead to the re-staffing of the case to finalize the agreed-upon strategy for overcoming the obstacles in the case.

Upon resolution of the referral, the Ombudsman conducts periodic follow-up interviews with the parties involved. The intent of these follow-up contacts is to determine satisfaction with Ombudsman services, answer additional or remaining questions, and monitor adherence to agreed-upon strategies for problem resolution. In referrals where communication between consumer and provider was problematic, periodic Ombudsman re-involvement may be required to facilitate ongoing progress.

The TCCY Ombudsman office has created outreach opportunities with a wide range of Tennessee children's services stakeholders. Efforts have included addressing TCCY regional councils and child advocacy organizations at their statewide meetings and conferences. Of particular importance have been meetings and joint training opportunities with the departments of Children's Services, Education, Mental Health and Mental Retardation, and Health, and the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. TCCY distributed two informational brochures featuring the rights of dependent children in state custody and information about the Ombudsman program.

In 1998-99, the TCCY Ombudsman office was expanded to include one additional ombudsman. ■

Ombudsman Program Activity Report

Fiscal Year 1999-2000

Referral Source	Referrals	Non- Referrals	Information	Total
Immediate Family	105	1	60	166
Extended Family	16	-	12	28
Foster Family	8	1	6	15
State/Government	7	-	11	18
Advocate	4	-	8	12
Community	7	-	8	15
Court	5	-	2	7
School	3	-	8	11
Therapist	7	-	5	12
Total	162	2	120	284

Referral Outcomes	Active Cases	Closed Cases	Total
Total	20	142	162

TEEN PREGNANCY

In 1988, Public Chapter No. 874 established the annual designation of model community-based programs that are “worthy of emulation” with respect to one or more of the following services for teens: family life education, prevention of teen pregnancy, counseling services for teens who are or think they are pregnant, prenatal care, parenting skills education, job training and placement, or education and support services.

Model programs were jointly designated by the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth and the state departments of Education, Health, Human Services, Labor, and Youth Development and recognized by a special legislative committee chaired by Representative Lois DeBerry.

In fiscal year 1991-92 the statutory authorization for designating Model Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parenting Programs (Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-111) expired. Under separate statutory authority through the appropriations bills, small one-time grants of up to \$6,000 each continued to be available to community-based programs to replicate the model programs or add components of the models to existing programs. TCCY coordinates the application and the interdepartmental review process for selection of Model Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parenting replication programs. An Interdepartmental Committee with representatives from the TCCY and the state departments of Children’s Services, Education, Health, Human Services, and Labor selects the replication grantees each year.

The following programs have been designated as “Model Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parenting Programs” in Tennessee:

- Athens Junior High School Family Life Education, Athens;
- Baby Boosters, Nashville;
- Bristol City Schools/Sullivan County Health Department Family Life Education, Bristol;
- Cannon County Child Protection Council, Woodbury;
- Chattanooga Adolescent Awareness Team (CHAAT), Chattanooga;
- Crittenton Awareness Team, Nashville;
- Crittenton Services School-Based Counseling Program, Nashville;
- I Have a Future Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, Nashville;
- Johnson City Schools Family Life Education Program, Johnson City;
- Kingsport City Schools Family Life Curriculum, Blountville;
- Male Connection, Memphis;
- Memphis City Schools Collaborative Care Project, Memphis;
- Mother Love, Memphis;
- Networking for Children and Families, Newport;
- PG-13 Players, Nashville;
- Project Responsible Adult Parenting (RAP), Memphis;
- Rule High School Preschool and Parenting Learning Center, Knoxville;
- Sunrise Program, Memphis;
- Teens Caring for Teens Team (TACT Team), Ripley;
- Tender Loving Care (TLC) Program, Chattanooga;



TEEN PREGNANCY

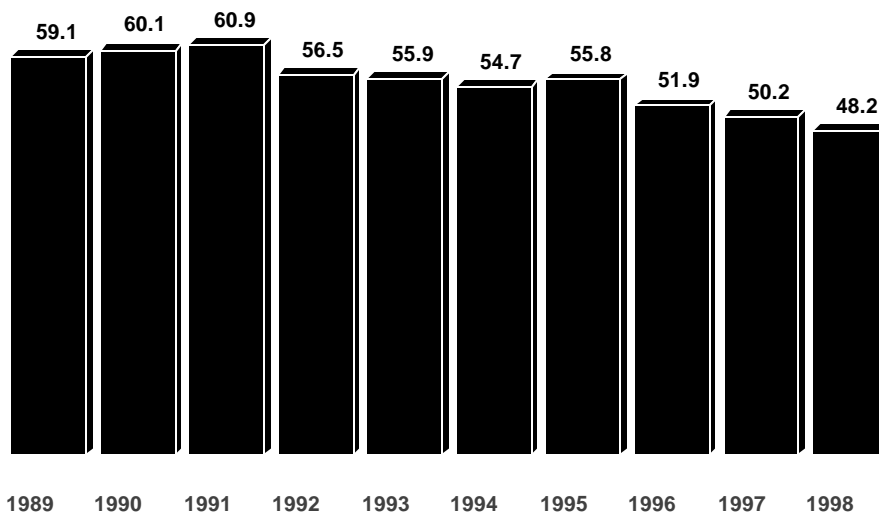
- Washington County Schools Pregnancy Prevention Program, Jonesborough;
- Young Adult Parenting Program, Kingston; and,
- Young Moms Program, Johnson City.

In fiscal year 1999-2000, 21 applications were received, and 10 were funded for replication of model programs. A list of the recipients of the competitive grants follows:

- U.T. Agricultural Extension Services, Decaturville;
- Refuge Temple Church, Dyersburg;
- Jackson-Madison County Health Department, Jackson;
- Brownsville Haywood County Community Action Organization, Brownsville;
- Columbia Cares, Inc. Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Columbia;
- Cumberland County School System, Board of Education, Project Baby, Crossville;
- Community Advocacy & Alliance for Kids Inc. Teen Theatre Troup, Dover;
- Break the Cycle, Inc., Pamper, Loudon;
- The Florence Crittenton Agency Inc., Knoxville;
- Metropolitan Nashville Public School, Nashville;

The teen pregnancy rate has declined since reaching its highest level in 1991. The Model Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parenting Programs and replications, the Adolescent Pregnancy Initiative, implementation of the family life curriculum, and improvements in education regarding AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases are factors thought to have contributed to an end to continually rising rates. ■

Tennessee Teen Pregnancy Rate Per 1,000 Ages 15-17



Source: Office of Health Statistics and Information, Tennessee Department of Health

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states:

“No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” (Public Law 88-352, Title VI, § 601, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 252.)

As an administrator and recipient of federal funds, it is the intent of TCCY to bind all agencies, organizations, or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control or receiving its funding to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

From July 1, 1999, to June 30, 2000, there were no complaints reported to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth regarding discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI. TCCY improved the distribution of the Title VI policies this year.

Specific Title VI related activities during fiscal year 1999-2000 included the following:

- The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth continued to administer the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act federal formula grant and Title V prevention funds in Tennessee.
- A copy of the Title VI Plan was given to each TCCY employee, Commission member and sub-grantee.
- Title VI requirements were also included in the Monitoring Review Tool submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration to be used when monitoring TCCY sub-grantees.
- The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth submitted its annual Title VI Plan before the required deadline of June 30, 2000. In compliance with the previous suggestion, the 2000 Title VI Plan included a letter from a minority person verifying review of the plan.
- The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth had no Title VI complaints.
- An explanation of the Title VI policies was presented at grantee application training and orientation training for new sub-grantees. Training sessions were held in Chattanooga, Memphis, and Nashville. The grant application packet for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth included Title VI requirements.
- TCCY regional coordinators visited sub-grantees to assure compliance with the Title VI policies and provided technical assistance on Title VI issues.
- Additional Title VI activities included distribution of a Title VI brochure and poster.
- Each year the TCCY Minority Issues Committee reviews and gives input on the development of the Title VI Plan ■■